

Quebec
► **LIBRE**

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BULLETIN

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Front de Libération du Québec Remembered

Trudeau You Slime

Chanting "Trudeau you slime, the people will have your hide", "No police or army in Quebec", "Solidarity with the Mohawks", and "S.O.S. F.L.Q." in French, some 375 people marched through the streets of Montreal on October 16th to commemorate the 20th anniversary of

the military occupation of Quebec. The demonstration, for which no permit had been obtained, ended outside the office of Robert Bourassa, the premier of Quebec, where five Canadian flags were burned. The demonstration was organized by the Octobre Chaud (Hot October) Coalition, a broad-based coalition made up of over 30 organizations and individuals, such as Pierre Vallieres, author of *White Niggers of America* and ex-F.L.Q. member.

This coalition is one of several groups to support Mohawk sovereignty, their position being clearly stated as: "The future of Quebec can't be redefined without the participation and agreement of the First Nations. The quality of social relations in Quebec, rests on our ability to establish veritable relations of equality, solidarity, and friendship with Native peoples. There will be no "Quebec libre" without the liberation of Native peoples."

The military occupation being protested was the result of Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau declaring the War Measures Act on October 16, 1990 following the kidnapping of

QUEERS' NITE OUT

On October 5, Queer Nation Toronto held its first 'Nite Out' at the Loose Moose club in response to the Club's extremely homophobic ad which appeared in NOW Magazine two weeks earlier. Over forty queers (most dressed as inconspicuously as possible) filtered into the club. It was not long before the club's patrons and owners realized that the club had been invaded by angry queers as the dance floor was overtaken by same-sex dance partners. Flyers were handed out explaining why Queer Nation had targeted the Loose Moose. Regular patrons left in droves and, since most queers did not buy any booze or food, the club lost a lot of

money on what is usually their busiest night. The idea behind 'Nite Out' is to challenge the notion that queers must be confined to 'their' clubs and ghettos by being ourselves in straight spaces and forcing straights to confront and deal with their homophobia. After enjoying ourselves we left shouting 'We're Queer, We're Here' to the dismay of the bewildered clientele.

On October 11, National Coming Out Day, the target chosen for the Queer Nation Kiss 'In was none other than the epitome of straight and consumerist culture in Toronto, The Eaton Centre. Condoms were

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...the people will have your hide

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British Diplomat, James Cross and Quebec Minister of Labour, Pierre LaPorte by the Front de Liberation du Quebec (FLQ). A Quebecois urban guerilla group formed in 1963 to fight for an end to the colonization of their country, Quebec, by English Canada and the US. In between 1963-72, over 70 men and women took action in the form of bombings, bank & armoury robberies and kidnappings in the name of Quebec independence under the name of FLQ.

It may seem cliché to call any part of Canada colonized, but in the 60's, Americans controlled 80% of the Quebec economy. French-Canadian-owned plants was only 15%. Unemployment in Quebec was 8-10% for the Quebec nation as a whole, but outside Montreal, it frequently ranged as high as 70%. In 1968, 73% of Quebecois families were earning 20% less than the amount considered to be the poverty line.

It is in this climate that revolutionary separation flourished. Countless strikes occurred as did demonstrations which turned into riots in which the participants were savagely beaten and often hospitalized by police. A mass separatist movement arose of which the FLQ was one fraction. The FLQ had a broad base of

support from the Quebecois people because their targets were offices of bosses that striking workers were fighting; Anglo-american businesses discriminating against the Quebecois.

The most spectacular FLQ bombing was the Montreal Stock Exchange in 1969. The greatest indication of support came on October 8, 1970 when the

FLQ manifesto was read on CBC tv (the only demand made by the kidnappers of James Cross which was met) to the cheers of the majority of the Quebecois working class

Trudeau invoked the War Measures Act not to apprehend so-called "terrorists" as he tried to have Canada believe, but to quell all dreams for an independent Quebec by attempting to frighten the Quebecois people into submission. It is thus not surprising that Quebec was occupied for a second time by the army this summer to quell dreams of Native sovereignty.

The struggle for Quebec independence in support of the struggle for Native sovereignty only promises to intensify in the upcoming months and years. At Ecomedia we will keep you informed on the struggle beginning next week with a brief history of the colonization of Quebec.

Correction time!

The article "Forum makes Factions its Focus" run two issues ago had several errors in it. The Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs is not the Canadian-government funded band council in the area. The benefit on Sept 16 wasn't cancelled due to Arlene Mantle's pull-out but because of problems with the club. We would also like to apologize for the mistake we felt was made in mentioning Doug George's murder charge without making the valid point that these charges were brought against him by white courts, which are hardly an impartial judge in these cases. We should never assume guilt based only on a charge by the Canadian courts.

Our article was meant only to warn our readers that some people locally had chosen sides in the Akwesasne conflict, and had been promoting one faction in a questionable manner; nonetheless the article seems to have indirectly implied, by noting this and showing another point of view, that we (as outsiders) had chosen a particular side in an internal Mohawk conflict, which we regret.

"Twenty years later we tell Trudeau and Bourassa that their plan to prevent Québec independence failed. The Québec of the nineties will achieve independence. It will do so with all social groups who make up the population of Québec and in solidarity with the Native nations of this country. We want a society which will allow Native people to regain their dignity, their liberty and their culture."

Pierre Vallières, Oct. 16 1990



OUR MONEY, THEIR PROPAGANDA

The Tories have spent between \$1 and \$2 million of the taxpayers' money to distribute a door-to-door broadsheet which attempts to justify their economic policies. Readers will doubtless be perplexed on being told (p4) that "the deficit has been reduced to less than \$30 billion," and in the next paragraph that "the debt has gone from \$200 billion to \$380 billion in just over six years."

The broadsheet talks a great deal about the evils of inflation, without mentioning that an extra 7% on everything bought is itself highly inflationary. Space does not permit us to deal with every inaccuracy in the pamphlet, but let's touch on a few of the major ones:

"The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement gives us freer and more secure access to the world's richest market" (p2.) Even if we assume that the USA is the richest market, our

manufacturers still by and large lack access to it. One major reason is the artificially high Canadian dollar, which Mulroney likely agreed to secretly as a condition for the Agreement.

"Dollars are now being reasigned to the most essential programs and to needy Canadians" (p5.) This will come as news to the 1/7 of Canadians who don't get enough to eat. The GST will hurt needy Canadians the most, by reducing their purchasing power for necessities, while being of most benefit to the corporations, many of which already pay no income tax, who are now relieved of paying the manufacturing tax as well.

"As today's inflationary pressures fall, we have been able to ease interest rates" (p6.) In fact, interest rates have been kept so

high that we are now experiencing a made-in-Canada recession.

Under the GST, "families with incomes below \$30,000 will be better off" (p7) because of a GST credit of \$190 per adult and \$100 per child. For a two-parent, two-child family this annual credit would amount to \$580. 7% of \$30,000 is \$2,100. The family won't pay \$2,100 because certain basic items are exempt from the GST, but it will likely pay more than \$580. And how will the growing number of homeless, who file no tax return, be able to obtain this credit?

What high interest rates, social security cutbacks, an artificially high Canadian dollar and the GST amount to is an attempt to control the boom-and-bust cycle inherent to capitalism by pauperizing hundreds of thousands of Canadians while corporate profits continue to grow.

Students Wreak Havoc

On Sept. 24 supply teachers for Toronto Board of Education schools went on strike, after contract talks with the board broke down over wages benefits.

As the strike entered its third week it had taken its toll on teachers and students alike. Particularly students at alternative schools who rely on long-term supply teachers, where classes and whole courses were cancelled. The students at Contact Alternative school decided to take matters into their own hands and put pressure on the party that was inflicting it on them. On Oct. 9 students occupied a trustee's office at the Board, demanding meetings with

top Board officials. They released the office, having been promised meetings, a promise which was later reneged.

Two days later the students returned in greater numbers and wreaked havoc on the building for three hours. They began by blocking off the executive wing of the building. After the wing was evacuated they moved to the first floor, where they blockaded the elevators (with the exception of one for disabled people). After cops from 52 division moved in, the students cleared out from the elevators, re-

maining in the lobby chanting and singing. Once again the requested meetings were not granted.

Three days later OPSEU (the supply teachers union) settled for a contract including extensive medical coverage, which is a national first for part-time employees.

It is unknown what effect students had on negotiations but it was clear that the board was shocked at this rare challenge to their power. To the supplies it was a great boost of support and it gave the students a sense of power and unity, which will hopefully grow stronger.

Queer Nation

(cont. from pg. 1)

handed out to shoppers as queers gathered by the fountain. A whistle was blown, signalling that the Kiss 'In had begun. To the chagrin of passersby, over 30 queers began necking in an obvious way. Upon witnessing this, security guards attempted to usher out all queers, getting Metro Police to charge one queer who had been filming the Kiss 'In with trespassing and failure to leave when asked to. The queer charged, John Greyson, will plead not guilty on October 31st when he appears in court.

Coincidentally, the 56 queers bashed in Montreal over the summer

by the police and charged with varying offences, from 'failure to disperse' to 'assaulting police', will be entering their pleas on the same day.

Queer Nation has only begun to fight for the liberation of all lesbians and gays in particular and oppressed people in general. Queer Nation is here to stay. No homophobia or straight establishment is safe as our presence shall continue to be made. Get used to it.

The next Queer Nation Meeting is Wednesday, October 24 at the 519 Church Street Community Centre. All queers welcome.

Turkey Abuserers Abused

Once again another group of animal rights activists are using direct action against animal abusers in Toronto. This time the activists are A.R.M., the Animal Rights Militia.



On Saturday, October 6 ARM took its first step to stopping the slaughter in Toronto. The action took place at Royce Dupont Poultry, a west-end meat packer in Toronto. The activists slashed tires on their convoy of trucks and disabled fuel lines. Although there wasn't much damage done, they did delay the shipment of turkeys for thanksgiving.

The Animal Rights Militia originated in England, coming together as a separate group from the Animal Liberation Front with the statement that (unlike the ALF) they were willing to use violence against animal abusers.

At the moment ARM are the only active underground animal liberation group we are aware of in Toronto.

Notes

Sat. Nov. 3 8pm: a benefit for the Mohawk Nation and Mary Pitawanakwat, an Ojibway woman fighting a human rights case against the Secretary of State, with poets Beth Brant, Doreen Silversmith, Chrystos and drummer and singer Betty Belanger. 427 Bloor St. W.. Sliding scale \$5-10. for more info call 532-6462.

Congratulations to CKLN FM 88.1 on their funding drive, now everyone remember to pay your pledges. Also thanks to all those who donated on Ecomedia's show, making our show total of \$330, well above our goal of \$250.

The Anarchist Hotline (535-5731) was malfunctioning for a time last week, but is now running smoothly again. Don't forget to call in and check out what's going on, or leave announcements you'd like shared.

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international "wire service" that acts as an alternative to regular news services. We focus on news and often censored information on autonomous and anarchist resistance and analysis of current events.

Ecomedia Toronto is a local office involved in three main projects: a radio show every Wednesday on CKLN 88.1 FM between 7 and 8 pm on the "Word of Mouth" program; also another radio spot at 12:15pm Fridays on CIUT 89.5 FM; and the bulletin in your hands. Published bi-weekly and free at locations around the city; subscriptions are \$15/yr (26 issues) mailed monthly to cut costs. Order from the address on the front with cheques or M.O.'s payable to Ecomedia.